THE WEEKLY SUN

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RURAL CUSTOMER

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City's Hodges Property Purchase Under New Scrutiny

By Isabelle Hall

Casting around for ways to pay its bills, the Carmel City Council will consider a proposal Tuesday to reduce its indebtedness on the Hodges property with funds set aside for its development, halting plans to create Rio Park.

Sitting as the Public Improvement Authority—an agency that met only once in the past two-and-a-half years—the council will consider using some $460,000 in a reserve account to prepay interest on the $1.55 million 20-year installment purchase of the land. The idea, which Mayor Ken White said the city was considering in mi-July, also was put forth two weeks ago in a poll of citizens by the Voice of Carmel. Responses have yet to be tabulated and made public.

The special 3 p.m. meeting was scheduled prior to a 3:30 p.m. joint session long planned with the Planning Commission to consider changes in the commercial zoning district.

Debt service on the 6.5-acre parcel that lies between Carmel Mission and Clint Eastwood's Mission Ranch resort totaled nearly $225,000 in the fiscal year ended July 31. The land is in the county next to the city-annexed Carmel Mission although even the question of whether it is actually adjacent to the city land was disputed at the time of purchase. Purchase of the property also was an issue in both the 1990 and 1992 civic elections.

Total debt service on Rio Park and two other city properties—Vista Lobos, acquired in December, 1988, for $2.5 million, and the Library Park Branch—was $685,644 in 1992. The total cost of Rio Park alone over the life of the debt service will be closer to $5 million, according to city documents, plus fees paid to handle the transaction.

White said he could not say what action the authority planned. The public notice of the session stated that it will consider a resolution "taking action on reducing the debt owed on the Installment Sale Agreement between the City of Carmel-by-the-Sea Public Improvement Authority and the Rosella S. Hodges Trust."

The Voice of Carmel suggested using funds set aside for development of the land in a restrictive reserve account to prepay some of the principal on the debt and cut the annual interest cost by about $44,000 annually over the next 17 years.

The installment sale agreement allows for excess payments to be applied to reduce the principal, an unusual departure from most installment sale agreements because the sellers usually want protection from income tax triggered by an acceleration of principal payments.

However, the agreement has a provision making Carmel liable for another $250,000 should the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) rule up to five years after the date of sale that the payments are not tax deductible. This presumably eliminates the problem of paying principal in advance. Payments are made to the Bankers Trust Co. of San Francisco.

Continued on page 16

A BARBECUE AT STONEPINE Inn was the highlight of Labor Day for about 150 residents. It was sponsored by the Carmel Valley Village Improvement Committee (CVVIC) in part to thank the local restaurants which have supported CVVIC's annual Village Affair. CVVIC Chairman Peter Coakley said the fundraiser has raised nearly $100,000 in the past three years to build pedestrian pathways through the Village. *Sun photo by Isabelle Hall*

Both CRA Members

Planning Commissioners Okayed at Special Session

Former Commissioner Lindsay Hanna, who favors one central commercial zone in Carmel, and a former San Luis Obispo planner were confirmed by the City Council Tuesday to fill two vacancies on the embattled Planning Commssion.

Despite a protest that the public was being excluded due to the short notice given over the Labor Day holiday, the Council voted unanimously at a special meeting to confirm Hanna for a one-year term and 3-2 to confirm Melanie Billig for a full, four-year term.

Both new commissioners said after the meeting that they were members of the Carmel Residents Association (CRA), but the question, which provoked a bitter fight at the last council meeting called to fill the commission vacancies, was never asked Tuesday.

"I didn't want to stir things up," Councilman Phil Congilio told the *Sun*. "I sort of encompassed that in my question about community involvement," said Councilman Bob Fischer. The two men were sharply attacked two weeks ago when they voted against Louis Rolle, saying they didn't want too many members of the association on the commission. The CRA accused them of violating Rolle's civil rights and threatened some kind of action.

Hanna was opposed by Councilwomen Barbara Brooks and Barbara Livingston, who both said they preferred Janice Fisher, a citrus grower who had spent seven years on the Redlands Planning Commission. White, Brooks and Livingston all belong to the residents association.

White answered complaints about the process being rushed at the opening of the meeting. "We cannot allow the Planning Commission to act without a full contingent of members," he said. Howard Nieman, Jr., a former commissioner, complained in a fax that the short notice—the special meeting was announced Friday—"denies the vast majority of the public an opportunity to attend and participate in the appointment process...I believe that public business must be done in public which requires that the public receive reasonable advance notice of city meetings.

"My sense is that public trust in the council is sinking quickly and only a change in management approach and emphasis will turn this situation around in time," he said.

Hanna, who has long been a CRA member, filled a one-year unexpired term a a year ago and stayed on for an additional three months to solve a deadlock by the

Contnued on page 5

Village Agrees on Rosie's Replacement; The Question is When?

By Stan Hall

After months of private negotiation over design changes, Carmel Valley Village came together Thursday night and agreed on a new bridge over the Carmel River on Esquiline Road to replace Rosie's Bridge.

At a town hall meeting chaired by Supervisor Karin Strasser Kauffman, residents demonstrated overwhelming support for a new structure to replace the narrow, steel-floored bridge where a Village boy was seriously hurt in a bicycle accident Aug. 3.

At the end of the two-hour session in the Tularcitos School multipurpose room, only a few major issues seemed unresolved, and county officials promised to look into them promptly. They were:

- When could construction begin on a replacement for Rosie's Bridge?
- What improvements might be made in the interim to try to avoid a repeat of the accident in which young Chris Buich lost control of his bike and suffered cuts that required more than 50 stitches to close?
- Would the county be willing to make other infrastructure changes in the area of the bridge?

The new design described by Director Gerald Gromko of the County Public Works Department and Nick Nichols, his deputy for engineering, would provide a 30-foot-wide cement floor for vehicle traffic and a separate 9-foot-wide wooden-floored walkway on the west side of it for pedestrians, bikes and even horses.

Slightly higher than Rosie's, the new structure would be concrete, but finished in a texture duplicating wooden planks and colored tan. Its cost is $2.1 million, 84 percent of which would be provided by the federal government. It would have the capacity to handle highway-size trucks, including fire engines, which Rosie's can't.

Attorney Michael Stamp said the new design was worked out in perhaps as many as 100 hours of negotiations with the county by members of the Carmel Valley History Society and eight residents who joined it in suing to block an earlier design approved by the Board of Supervisors.

Stamp, who represented the group which sued, praised county staff members who took part in the negotiations for their willingness to listen to residents' concerns. He said the new design was more rustic, provided for a wider walkway, added color and eliminated a 9-foot-high chain-link fence along the bridge.

But Stamp was not so sanguine about why it took so long to arrange a public meeting to consider the new design proposal. "It's too bad it took as long as it took. It's too bad the accident had to happen," he told the *Sun*. "There wasn't a thing shown at the town meeting that couldn't have been shown as early as February of 1992."

Both Stamp and Stew Clough of the History Society

Continued on page 14

LETTERS

Public Salaries Out of Line?

The issue of "parity" when discussing salaries and benefits for public employees is entrenched in a narrow rhetoric that is very like quicksand. Parity in this context has been traditionally viewed narrowly by comparing public employee salaries and benefits only to other public employment and without regard to comparisons to private sector employment or the relative worth of the jobs.

The result has been twofold: first, an ever increasing rise in the costs of public sector employment to the point where jurisdictions and agencies have no money left for infrastructure because most of the money is used for salaries and benefits for the public employees, and second, public sector salaries and benefits frequently exceed those in the private sector.

There was a point in time when public jobs were paid not so handsomely and the offsets were good benefits and job security Now the jobs pay more than private sector jobs, the benefits are greater and the job security is excellent. Two out of three is a pretty darn good deal but three out of three is open to question. I'm not sure we can afford to be so generous. If one is curious enough, he or she will find the budgets of the public agencies of the area to be very interesting and disheartening when they realize the amount of taxpayer dollars being spent just in our little county for all public sector employment.

I don't argue against necessary public employment, for health welfare and safety, but I do question the costs that taxpayers are being asked to bear and I seriously question the ongoing comparison methods as trickery and immoral hucksterism. An entry level job in government should not cost the employer 30 percent to 40 percent more than a comparable private sector job merely on the fact that it is a public sector job. We need some balance and some courage from our elected representatives to stop the past practices, curb the abuses and get the parity issue into proper focus. The taxpayer is the foil in this ruse and the one who must ultimately pay.

Don Boston
Pacific Grove

An Independent Appeals for Harmony

I've stated before that I could see both sides in Carmel's zoning fight. I still can. I'm writing this to try to help both sides move more to the middle—to help restore harmony.

I don't want to see Carmel become all over-sized multi-million dollar houses, sold for time-share or second homes for millionaires from abroad and elsewhere—nor do you. I don't want to see more large hotels or large cement buildings selling even more art, T-shirts and jewelry. Too many of any of these would mean all would fail.

However, I don't believe we really do have thousands more tourists at our gates, waiting to rush in and swamp us. One or two more earthquakes and we won't have close to the same number we are used to. Aside from renting places to sleep, we haven't had so many tourists buying what we have for sale in Carmel—thus the 38 or more empty shops.

I don't think landlords are going to take a chance and build more huge buildings and lose them. Only a certain number of people drive up and down Highway 1, and only a certain number fill the tour buses whose numbers usually remain about the same.

I don't believe City Hall, the Carmel Residents Association or the Planning Commission can force all Carmel residents to shop in town. I keep seeing many of my fellow CRA members at Long's, Luckys', Del Monte Center, Rio Safeway, even at the Pacific Grove Safeway and K-Mart. You want a resident-serving buffer? Then will you ;support it?

In 1984, Carmel gave commercial zoning to the Carmel Plaza, a logical location for resident -serving businesses because it is close to our homes. Then a red line, as one suggestion, was drawn through our Village map, zig-zagging here and there. Because of the new line, many properties were downzoned, thus devaluing some people's property. A few well-intentioned folks grabbed the red line as absolute—God's law. But it is only a pencil line. It can be moved.

I believe that supply and demand will be the final equalizer. I don't believe all these businesses are lined up waiting to set up shop in Carmel.

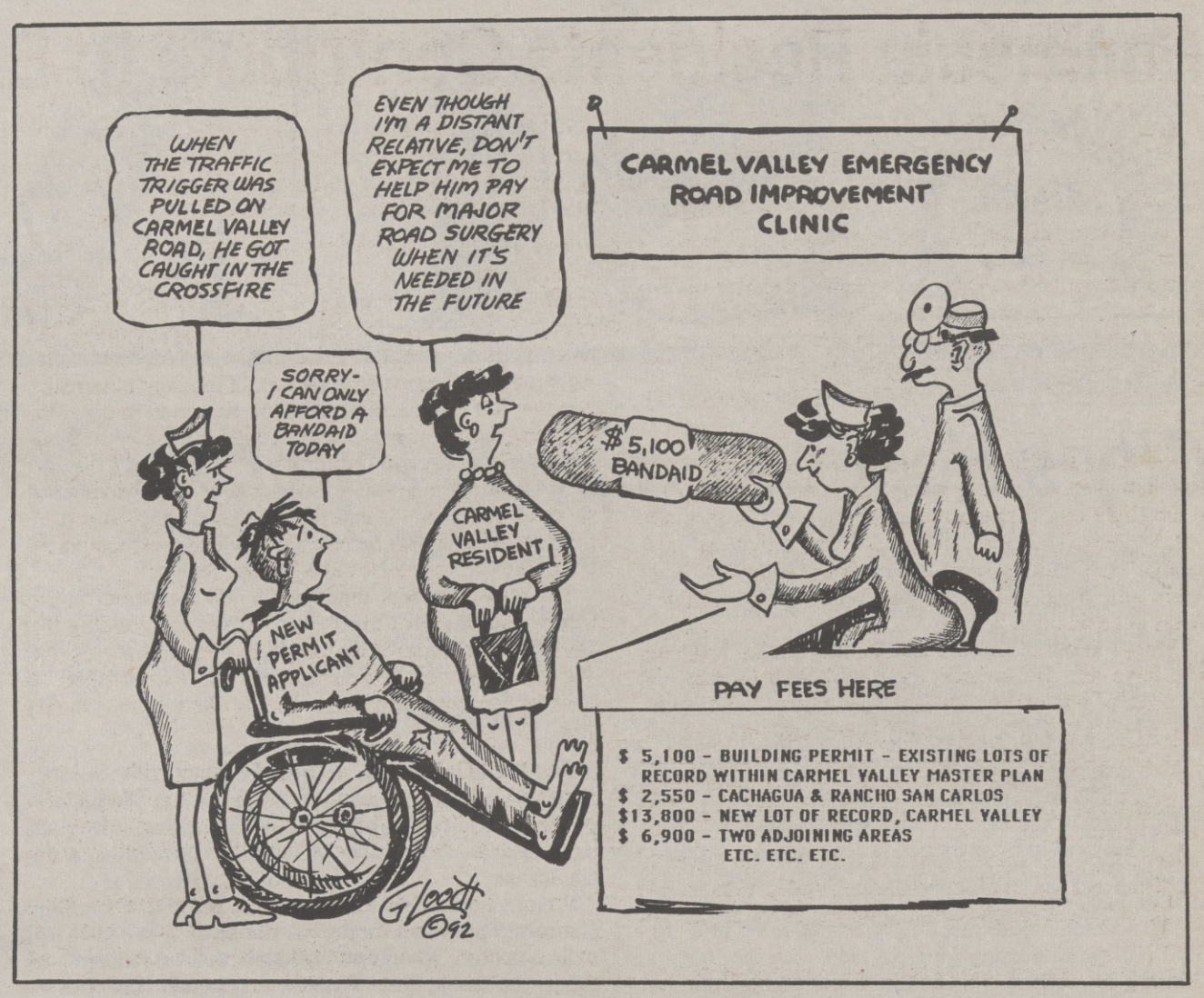
What harm would it do to put the lines back where they were? The Village was at peace then. We didn't have all these separate groups feeling they had to fight other groups—all positive their positions were the only true way. These groups come across as zealots, fixed, resolute, vindictive, locked in stone. How sad and how unnecessary.

Relax, friends. Our way of life isn't threatened. I would like to see the formation of one group, open to homeowners and business owners, where we could talk openly about our fears, desires, the focus we want to follow. The group should be flexible and democratic and bring us together, not splinter us apart. No one wins this way. Two Planning Commissions approved an idea they spent many hours studying. It seems fair to me—up 7th, down 5th, without cutting through the middle of property lines. It might be sensible, I agree, to protect the low-cost housing west of Dolores on 5th.

How long do you think several property owners will continue to be patient and not sue? The only reason it hasn't happened already is that they all love Carmel and keep hoping the City Council will find a fair solution.

No, I'm not on either side. I guess I'm an independent. Let's put compromise back in the Carmel vocabulary again. Doing that won't ruin the city. No side is absolutely right on every question. I'd like to see everybody relax and look at both sides. Then maybe we can live in harmony again.

Muriel Miller
Carmel


WHEN THE TRAFFIC TRIGGER WAS PULLED ON CARMEL VALLEY ROAD, HE GOT CAUGHT IN THE CROSSFIRE
EVEN THOUGH I'm A DISTANT RELATIVE, DON'T EXPECT ME TO HELP HIM PAY FOR MAJOR ROAD SURGERY WHEN IT'S NEEDED IN THE FUTURE
CARMEL VALLEY EMERGENCY ROAD IMPROVEMENT CLINIC
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PAY FEES HERE
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$ 2,550 - CACHAGUA & RANCHO SAN CARLOS
$13,800 - NEW LOT OF RECORD, CARMEL VALLEY
$ 6,900 - TWO ADJOINING AREAS
ETC. ETC. ETC.
GLOOCH ©92

Not "Bo" as in "Peep"

After reading Isabelle Hall's Out and About (Sept. 3), I expect that by the time my letter reaches you from the far distances of Carmel Point that you will have been the recipient of a variety of other communications all rather laughing at your description of her family's origin in the Bo Bells of London area, which she wrote meant they lived within the sound of Big Ben and therefore must have been cockney.

In fact, if her ancestors lived close enough to the Palace of Westminster to hear the big bell in the tower, she might well have come from one of the posher families of London at the time, for they were living in the Westminster section of greater London. Scotland yard in either of its creations isn't far away. The Abbey is next door to Big Ben. Westminster Bridge and the Thames lie adjacent.

Cockney London is a long way away, however. And it wasn't "Bo" as in "Peep," but rather "Bow" as used to describe arches supporting the lower level of the construction of the church of St. Mary-le-Bow in Cheapside in the City of London. The arches of the crypt are dated back to Roman times in 1087. The church was destroyed by bombing in WWII, but restored in 1964, ;although I don't believe regular services are held there these days. At any rate, it is the church presumably whose ringing bells can be used to define a "cockney's" birthsite. Truth to tell, in four trips to London, I have yet to hear anyone talk in the Eliza Doolittle fashion—perhaps Henry Higgins cleaned up the area—but that isn't to say that they can't be found around someplace. But certainly not within sound of Big Ben as it towers majestically over the Houses of Parliament.

Kenneth Bullock
Carmel

Nature Puts on a Spectacular Show

Count yourself lucky if you've been there to see it, one of the great aquatic shows on this nature-favored coast. It's been going on intermittently at Carmel River State Beach and Carmel Beach.

The show begins when a school of the larger sardines, nine-inchers maybe, wanders into Carmel Bay. Then the sea lions, a half-dozen to a score, assemble into a chorus line off shore and move forward, their sleek black bodies glistening as they plane from water to air and back again. In their fright, the little fishes head for the shallows parallel to the beach, some of them skittering across the surface. And now it's the moment for the brown pelicans. While perched on the sugarloaf-shaped rocks they looked, with their white thatches and dark robes, like so many somnolent Supreme Court justices. Instantly transformed into Top Gun dive bomber pilots they circle high above, then fold their wings and hurtle down, cleaving the water with their sharp bills. Back on the surface, they are surrounded by the sea gulls, non-divers, who hope that something for them will fall off the dining table.

Meanwhile, the sea lions, their dive master barking his commands, dive and come back underwater along the beach, a myriad of succulent sardines all theirs, except for what the pelicans have caught. And shoreward from the larger sea lions, almost Invisibly advancing In the surf line, is a harbor seal. Seaward participants and shore on-lookers alike find it a grand occasion for all—except of course, the sardines. Maybe, though, in fulfillment of nature's plan, the sardines will keep coming back to Carmel Bay for re-enactment of this stirring aquatic event.

Howard C. Skidmore
Carmel

Don't Wait for Great Dam

I would like to respond to a recent letter from Mr. Heuer of the Water Board (Sun, Aug. 6). In his letter, he is now against the desal plant and wishes to wait an indefinite number of years for the "hoped for dam".

This is the same man who has been on the water board for approximately nine years, and part of that time, he was chairman. During those nine years not a drop of new water was produced to help our drought problem. A few years ago, I heard a speaker from the same water board, and he told us about the many excellent meetings they had but admitted they had no new water in sight. This job is the "politicians delight"— that is talk much and produce nothing!

Now there is hope in the future. The current board, with Dale Hekhuis' leadership, has a plan for a desal plant that can be brought on line and producing water within three years. We need that water as soon as we can get it. None of us want more rationing. Above all, we don't need anyone who still wants us to keep waiting for that "great dam in the distant future."

R. F. Hopkins
Carmel

See page 18 for more letters

THE SUN

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White Defends CRA Membership; Likens Current Fuss to "Mud Fight"

Mayor Ken White defended his right to belong to the Carmel Residents Association (CRA)—"or any group"—despite a bitter quarrel swirling around the CRA which he likened to a "mud fight."

"I don't like guilt by association," White said in an interview. Asked about calls from some citizens for him and Councilwomen Barbara Brooks and Barbara Livingston to quit the CRA, he said, "I'd like to be able to belong to any group I can. I may agree or disagree with any positions they take but I am presumably unbound by them."

The CRA launched a scathing attack on Councilmen Bob Fischer and Phil Coniglio two weeks ago after their votes rejected one of White's nominees for the Planning Commission primarily because he was a CRA member.

Livingston and Brooks also vehemently defended their right to belong to the CRA or any other organization in town. Livingston said she was not a CRA "puppet," and Brooks said there was no financial conflict of interest in belonging to the CRA or any other organization of which she was a member.

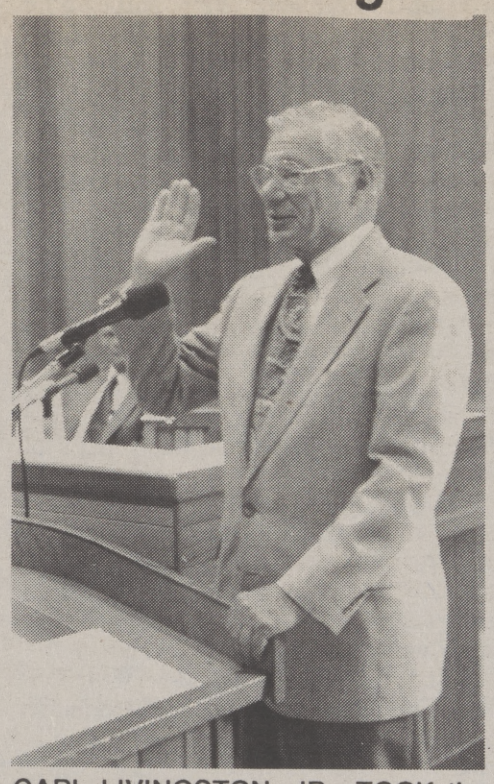
"There's a great concern by a few people in the community that I am a puppet of some organization or another, and that simply is not true," Livingston said. "The people I hear from in the community are people with serious problems. I do not hear or get any direction from the CRA or any other organization."

"I think it's highly inappropriate," Brooks said. "The guilt by association, McCarthyism approach is appalling."

"We'll get through this," White predicted as he called another meeting Tuesday in an attempt to fill two vacancies on the Planning Commission.

The council approved one of White's nominees to the Planning Commission—Carl Livingston, Jr., who also is a CRA member—but rejected Louis Rolle on a 2-2 vote. Fischer in particular had said publicly he did not want to see all the city's commissions filled with CRA members.

In response, the CRA threatened some unspecified "action" against Fischer and Coniglio, charging nominee Rolle's civil rights were violated. In a separate stinging statement, the association said the city didn't need any "thought police."



CARL LIVINGSTON, JR., TOOK the oath of office as a member of the Carmel Planning Commission at the City Council Sept. 1.

"I feel like I'm witnessing a mud fight," said White, a longtime volunteer firemen. "I'd liked to get a firehose out and hose everybody down. I'd like to physically take them and point them in the direction of where we can start solving some of the things that are really important.

"I'm not happy with either side," he said. "I'm embarrassed for the people—that's on both sides. I'm spending all my time trying to help move the city in the normal course of direction we're supposed to go. That is trying to preserve our way of life and keeping the city stable."

White said people need to start spending their time on such important issues as living with a restrictive budget and proposed commercial zoning changes. City Council

Continued on page 9

From State Budget Settlem

Fire Districts A

By Stan Hall

With talk of possible lawsuits in the air, local fire protection districts are scrambling to assess the loss of at least $320,000 in property tax funds this year as a result of the state budget settlement.

Although a great deal of confusion still reigns, that was a rough estimate of the total loss to just four districts—Carmel Valley, Mid Valley, County Service Area (CSA) 43 and Carmel Highlands.

In addition, officials expressed concern that additional funding cuts or mandatory costs will be imposed on their already reeling spending plans.

"We're getting mauled," said Chief Gary Carmichael of Mid Valley.

Chiefs Bills Sims and Lanny White said the boards of the Carmel Valley and Carmel Highlands districts, each looking at the probable loss of about $65,000 in property taxes, would meet Wednesday after the *Sun's* press deadline to consider their options. Neither suggested they would consider raising taxes at this time.

Carmichael said he was looking at the loss of from $64,000 to $94,000 depending on how the budget settlement legislation is interpreted and implemented. His board, anticipating the cuts and using existing taxing authority, raised rates in the district in July to collect an additional $130,000 a year.

He said he hoped to convene an emergency meeting of the Mid Valley board this week or early next week to adopt a final budget before the Oct. 1 deadline.

A spokesman for the County Public Works Department which administers CSA 43 at the mouth of the Valley, said it stood to lose about $127,500 as a result of the new budget. CSA 43 contracts with the California Department of Forestry for fire protection in the heavily developed area that generates about $1.2 million in taxes each year.

All three chiefs said confusion still marked the settlement that finally ended a two-month stalemate between Republican Gov. Pete Wilson and the Democratic-controlled legislature. The state, facing nearly an $11 billion budget, cut spending sharply.

Carmichael estimated that his department could face a total loss of up to $115,000 come. The funds basically [illegible] to support schools.

Carmichael expressed concern that he could lose $94,000 if fees paid to his district for the annexation of property in Carmel Valley Ranch were used to calculate his total income. Without counting those fees, he said Mid Valley looked to lose $64,000.

Similarly, Sims said he was concerned that a special tax fund collected by Carmel Valley to pay for free-to-the-user emergency ambulance service to district residents might be counted as a part of his department's income.

"If we have to show that as income, we're going to fight that one out," Sims declared, suggesting his board would consider suing. He said he had told state Assemblyman Sam Farr's office that such a suit was likely.

For his part, Carmichael said he would consider asking his board to bring a lawsuit if the Carmel Valley Ranch annexation fees were counted in Mid Valley's income for purposes of calculating the loss.

Saying that most special districts probably would lose 10 percent of their property tax income, Sims said a meeting of all the districts with the county auditor was being planned as promptly as possible. He said the meeting would allow the auditors to explain to all districts at one time how they intended to interpret the state legislation.

For the first time, the Ventana Chapter of the Sierra Club has endorsed a presidential ticket, supporting Gov. Bill Clinton of Arkansas and Sen. Al Gore of Tennessee for what it called their "impressive environmental platform."

In endorsing Clinton-Gore, the chapter noted it was following the lead of the national organization. The national group supported the Democratic ticket in making only its second presidential endorsement in 100 years, the local group said.

Janie Figen of the chapter's executive committee said: "Bush and Quayle have betrayed and misled the American people on environmental issues. For four years, Bush has promised that he would protect wetlands, fight the greenhouse effect, pass a national recycling law and protect our lungs from air pollution. He has broken every single promise."

The chapter previously had endorsed the reelection of Rep. Leon Panetta, D-Carmel Valley.

"We're not sure if crime is on the increase because of economic conditions or what," Fuselier said. Although crime is up 32 percent, he said arrests and clearances were up 150 percent. "We're putting a lot of people in jail. There were three armed robberies last week and two were solved immediately."

"Few in this room were born here," Fuselier said. "We came here for the beauty. With this beauty comes a sense of complacency, but it can happen here."

He said the police department needed the involvement of both business and the residential community to prevent crime.

"The main thing we need to do is recognize that we have a problem," Poitras said. "We all need to take steps if we see something unusual. We have only so many police officers and only so many pairs of eyes.

"If you see something suspicious," Poitras said, "Don't rationalize it. Don't wait to call us. If there's a shoplifter in town, we'll find out that four or five different business people have seen them in their store, mulled it over and forgot about it."

Just by talking to a would-be shoplifter, he said, the police can make the point so "they know this town is aware."

Poitras urged people to call the police department with any concern. "If you hear a noise at night that's unusual, don't roll over and go back to sleep. Call us. We don't mind coming if nothing's wrong. Don't be embarrassed."

He said the police often discover after a crime that someone heard a noise or something unusual but didn't report it.

Poitras said there was a significant increase in car burglary and five robberies this year "which is amazing, including two last week. "We had two bank robberies earlier this year where we usually don't have any."

Wells Fargo and Great Western Savings were both robbed last winter by a man who pleaded guilty and is serving time in a federal prison, Poitras said. "We rarely have robberies where a man comes in with a knife" as happened last week, he added. The robber was arrested. He called the armed robbery by a woman in the Plaza Restaurant, which also occurred last week, "highly unusual." The investigation is continuing.

August Temperatures Continue 1992 Trend

No individual temperature records fell, but August came in just like every other month so far in 1992—warmer than normal.

Dr. Robert Renard, Monterey weather observer and retired head of the Navy Postgraduate School meteorology department, said the overall average temperature in August was 61.9 degrees. That "is exactly one degree above the long-term, 41-year average, with both highs and lows contributing to the warm anomaly," Renard said.

He said the average high for the month was 70.3 degrees, compared to normal of 69.1 degrees, while the average monthly low was 53.5 degrees, compared to normal of 52.7.

"This is the first month since January, 1992, in which new daily temperature records were not set," Renard said. "Perhaps the return to near normal is tied to the end of the El Nino influenced ocean/air temperatures in the North Pacific and Continental U. S. areas."

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Animal Ordinance Approved Without Wildlife Feeding Ban

By Carolyn Rice

The Board of Supervisors unanimously approved a new animal control ordinance Tuesday which prohibits people from giving away all animals except goldfish in public places. But it sent back for more study a proposal to ban the feeding of wildlife.

While the ordinance prohibits people from giving away animals such as puppies and kittens in public places, they still may be given away on private property, such as in shopping centers if people have permission.

Supervisor Karin Strasser Kauffman said she thought people should be allowed to give away puppies or kittens at neighborhood festivals or little league parks.

"I have a real concern about overkill of some of these provisions," she said. "Many of the provisions go too far. Some of the regulations are unenforceable and not very realistic."

The board did exempt goldfish from its ban on giving away animals in public places after Supervisor Tom Perkins complained, "There are very few liberties left for children." The third district supervisor said he was not about to vote for something that would restrict children from winning a fish at the fair.

Dorothy MacDonald, a member of the 15-member advisory committee which worked for more than a year to develop recommendations, said when people give away puppies or kittens at places such as shopping centers, it can result in abuse. The animals often end up at the SPCA, throwing a big burden on it, she said. But if they are taken there initially at least they are neutered if adopted, she said.

The ordinance would not require the licensing of cats, as the advisory group had recommended to help prevent the spread of rabies. But it does require that they be vaccinated against the disease and establishes a voluntary licensing program.

In moving to adopt the ordinance, Supervisor Barbara Shipnuck excluded a provision which would have banned the feeding of wildlife. She asked the advisory committee to restudy the wildlife provisions and another section on straying livestock and bring them back to the board within a month or so.

San Ardo rancher Miguel Errea said state law is very specific on how livestock strays are to be handled, but SPCA staff said livestock other than cattle sometimes strays and people in other parts of the county may not be as familiar with what to do as the people in South County.

He also questioned the proposed ban on the feeding of wildlife.

"It has been a common practice to feed quail that are around the farmyard with no harm to the quail. Why make this illegal?" he asked.

Supervisors Judy Pennycook and Sam Karas said they had received a letter from an elderly woman in Del Monte Forest who enjoys feeding a deer. "Please don't laugh at this," Karas said. "This is serious. An 84-

Continued on page 9

Hanna, Billig Named to Commission

Continued from front page

powerful commission. He again said he would serve just one year to complete the term of former Vice Chairman Stephen Poohar whose resignation was requested by Mayor Ken White.

Billig, a former high school history teacher, served on the San Luis Obispo Planning Commission and said she chaired a major water commission. She also is active in the League of Women Voters and recently was appointed to the board of directors of the Carmel Library Foundation. Her husband is a doctor with offices in King City and Templeton.

Billig, who said she moved to Carmel two years ago, told the *Sun* she joined the CRA because, "I strongly believe in neighborhood associations. It is important to belong to your chamber of commerce and neighborhood groups."

Hanna said White had called him about three weeks ago when he returned from a trip to the East Coast and asked him if he would be willing to serve out Poohar's unexpired term. He agreed, making it plain he would not want to serve any longer. Hanna said a medical problem which caused him not to want to serve longer during his first stint on the commission had been under control for several months and "should not be an obstacle to a short term, although heavy, commitment to Planning Ccommissioner service."

Hanna said he was ready to go to work and was to be sworn in Wednesday afternoon. Also joining the commission Wednsday was Carl Livingston, Jr., a former Bay Area businessman, who was appointed at the Sept. 2 meeting when Rolle's nomination lost on a 2-2 vote with Councilwoman Brooks absent.

Billig was named to a full, four-year term succeeding Chairwoman Carla Ramsey whose term expires at the end of this month. Ramsey, who was not asked to serve on, is the last of the commissioners appointed by former Mayor Clint Eastwood.

In contrast to the deadlocked Sept. 2 meeting when the council met attended only by Deputy Clerk Sarah Manning, sitting with the council at Wednesday's meeting were Acting City Administrator Greg D'Ambrosio, City Attorney Don Freeman and Manning. Planning Director Diane White took notes on the side.

Also applying for the two commission seats were retired school teacher Roy former council over appointments to the Gilligan, who said he had moved to town a year ago, and Roger Rector, an electrical contractor, who was interviewed last May. Neither man was even mentioned by the council.

The newcomers join Vice Chairman Jack Kennedy, an art gallery manager and appraiser, architect Brian Congleton, retired executive Edward Jordan and Margarete Hardy, a management executive and public relations consultant whom White appointed in May. Once Ramsey's term expires, the commission will vote to elect a new chairman.

Hanna, who chaired last year's highly successful 75th Birthday Party Committee for the city, made his views on the controversial commercial zoning issue crystal clear. "If you are willing to give someone a business permit, they should be able to buy or rent anwhere in the commercial zone but we should be tough as hell in the buffer zone," he said.

The question was asked of all applicants but only Hanna had the background to answer specifically, having sat on the commission during one of the two years it has spent on proposed changes in the city's commercial district. The commission's recommendations will be taken up at a joint meeting with the council next Tuesday at 3:30 p.m.

On the issue of preserving Carmel's historical properties, Hanna said he had taken some "real knocks" because his wife, Becky, serves on the committee of surveyors working on a list of important houses.

"Of course I want to preserve important old houses," he told questioner Brooks. "I'm not sure there are that many houses in Carmel worth preserving. You might come up with 20 or 30 houses that should be subject to a preservation ordinance. It should be for something special."

He said he basically supported the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Parking Committee to solve Carmel's parking problems. "Most residents don't consider they have a parking problem, but we have a critical problem with the tourists and the

Continued on page 8

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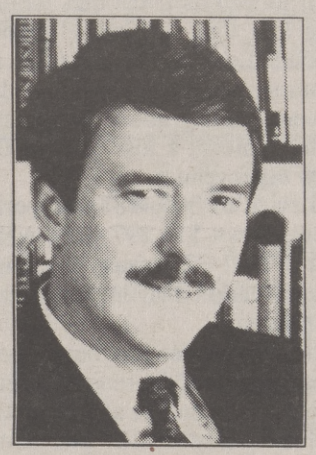

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Carmel Offers Employees Four Months Severance Pay

The City of Carmel has offered employes four months severance pay capped at $15,000 in an attempt to cut costs and balance its 1992-93 budget, Financial Services Coordinator Sandi Davenport said Wednesday.

Notices about the severance pay went out last Thursday. Employes have until Sept. 16 to take advantage of the offer, "There has been some interest," she said. The average four months salary for non-management employees would be about $7,000, according to Davenport.

Acting City Administrator Greg D'Ambrosio, meanwhile, said the city was still in the dark about how much money it will lose as a result of state budget cuts.

"We know that 9 percent of the total property tax will be cut, and that's permanently," he said. "But we don't have the answer on the trailer bills yet." The so-called trailer bills will define precisely what other cuts the city can expect. Even the property tax trailer bill has not yet been signed by Gov. Pete Wilson although this is expected.

The cut in property tax, the city's third largest source of revenue, will amount to a loss of $112,000 in the 1992-93 budget. Earlier, D'Ambrosio had estimated the total loss from the state budget cuts at $228,000.

"We've talked to the League of California Cities," Davenport said. "They told us this would be the major impact so we're not anticipating any large impact. That's the only information they'll give us but we're not expecting any surprises."

Although it looked as if the cuts would be somewhat less than originally feared, Davenport pointed out that at one point in the long-running budget discussions the legislators were talking about a cut that would only have meant a loss of $28,000 in the property tax revenues.

Carmel collected $1,305,428 in property taxes last year, down $16,297 from what was budgeted in 1991-92 because of a sluggish real estate market that impacted the real estate transfer tax.

D'Ambrosio and Davenport have been incommunicado much of the time in recent weeks, working on the budget at a secluded site away from City Hall. The City Council has scheduled an initial budget session Sept. 22 with final action set at a second meeting Sept. 29. Last year the budget totaled $8.4 million

Davenport explained that the $15,000 cap was put on severance pay so that if "a management person took it we wouldn't have a $30,000 bill."

The staff will present the council with a menu of choices to either cut jobs or projects, she said. "Right now the gap we're looking at is contingent upon how many people, if any, take advantage of the severance pay offer."

ANNELISE AND LOREN MOORE pack up their sail after competing in a recent Monterey Bay sailboat race. *Sun photos by Carolyn Rice*

Carmel Highlands Girl Scores In Junior Sailing Competition

By Carolyn Rice

"You were awesome." That's what a competitor in the Mercury National Championship told 15-year-old sailor Annelise Moore of Carmel Highlands after sailboat races on Monterey Bay recently.

Moore is among a group of Monterey Peninsula Yacht Club juniors who have competed in a number of national and international contests this summer.

"The junior program (at the yacht club) is one of the most active in Northern California," Moore said. "This is particularly remarkable considering we are somewhat isolated from the competitive racing on the San Francisco Bay."

Moore skippered a two-man, 18 foot, Mercury sailboat Saturday with her older brother, Loren, 18, working as her crew.

"He was very good about it," Annelise said of her brother's crewing under her command. She recalled they used to fight when she crewed for him several years ago. "I didn't like him telling me what to do."

But she said she thinks they've now both become more mature and work well together.

"She's improved fantastically," Loren said of his sister, adding that "her knowledge of the rules is good."

Annelise is a Carmel High School sophomore and Loren a freshman at Monterey Peninsula College.

Saturday's race was for adults who came from around the Central Coast. The Moores competed in the B fleet which is for less experienced sailors and placed second.

Annelise, who has competed in Chicago and Rhode Island contests this summer, said, "My attitude has changed. I'm a lot more aggressive. My starts have improved. I just go for it. It's all in the timing."

She explained that a sailboat needs to be moving at full speed as it crosses the starting line, but it can't cross the line early.

She placed seventh out of 68 in the Junior Women Championships in Chicago in July and sixth in the U.S. Sailing Rolex Junior Championships in Rhode Island. She said she competed in San Francisco to qualify for the Rhode Island event. She also taught sailing at the Monterey Peninsula Yacht Club this summer.

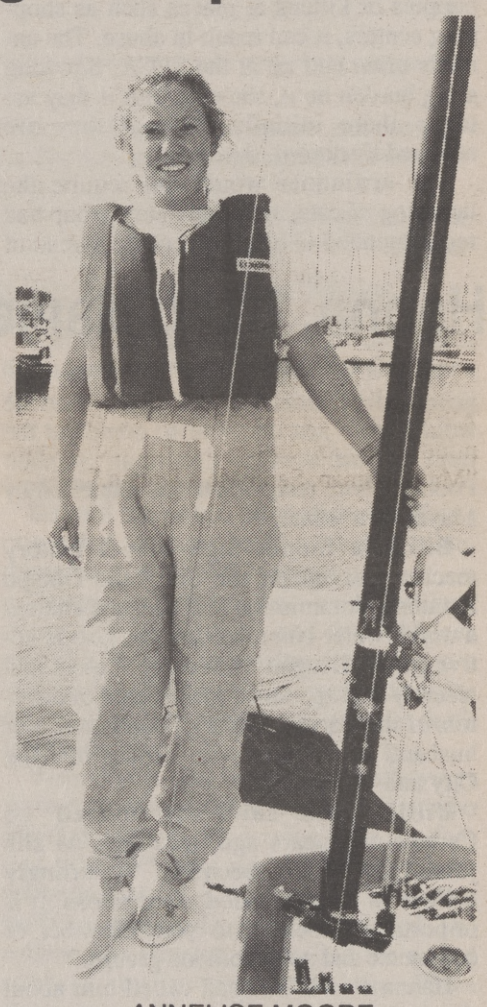
She described sailing as "hard. It really is. It's very athletic. I takes a lot of leg muscles."

Besides physical ability, a major part of the sport has to do with thinking and making decisions, she said. "You have to know what the wind will do and what your boat will do."

"All the people in first place know exactly what their boat will do," Loren agreed.

Other Monterey Peninsula Yacht Club juniors who have competed in national and international matches this summer at San Francisco, Rhode Island, Alamitos Bay and other locations include Patrick Whitmarsh, 18, of Carmel, Mike Spencer, 17, of Marina, Brendan Richards, 14, Carmel, Brent Harrill, 15, Monterey, Paul Allen, 18, Pacific Grove, Erica Mattson, 15, Toro Park, and Brendan Bradley, 16, Fresno.

Spencer crewed on a long distance ocean race from San Francisco to Long Beach during rough and stormy weather, Annelise said. He sailed on Allure, a 50 foot boat. Whitmarsh skippered in the Governor's Cup in Southern California, an international match in which his team won the sportmanship award and finished in the top 10.



ANNELISE MOORE

CV Chamber to Hear Hospital Official Speak

Will L. Bishop, vice president of financial services at Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula, will discuss health insurance issues at a luncheon meeting of the Carmel Valley Chamber of Commerce Wednesday.

The meeting will be at noon at Bon Appetit Restaurant in Carmel Valley Village. Chamber members, guests and friends are invited. Reservations may be made by calling 659-4000.

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JUDGES PONDERED THE SEVEN entries submitted by area school children to pick a theme for the 1992 Great Sandcastle Contest that will be held at Carmel Bay at a date yet to be announced. It has been an annual event since 1964.

Girl Wins Sand Castle Theme Contest

Stephanie Stock, a sixth grader from Salinas, won the first contest to pick the theme of Carmel's highly popular annual Great Sand Castle Contest. Her winning idea—"1992 Creature Castles."

The 11-year-old youngster, a pupil at John E. Steinbeck School, won $150 for the idea. Posters and T-shirts for the judges of the upcoming event will all bear replicas of her winning design.

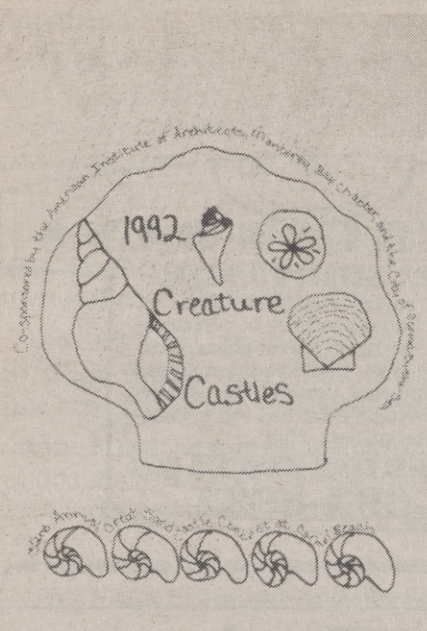
The date of the contest, usually held a big secret until the last minute, will be announced in a few weeks, Carmel Recreation Director Jerry Pullem said. And this year, for the first time, he said there will be some advance notice so that more people from outlying areas can participate in the big event at Carmel Beach.

Ben Frohe, 12, of Carmel, a student at All Saints' Day School, won the prize for middle school children with the theme. "Mr. Sandman, Send Me a Dream."

Hans Lee, 9, of Carmel, a River School third grader, won for the elementary school classification with "What's Under the Sea." Frohe and Lee each got $50.

Pullem said there were no high school entrants. Although more than 400 applications were distributed to area schools, he said only seven entries were received. He attributed the poor return to the fact the packages were mailed just before school was out for the summer and said next year they will be mailed earlier.

The Great Sand Castle Contest has been an annual event since 1960. Families are urged to turn out to spend the day creating an entry or just to picnic and enjoy the event. It is co-sponsored by the American Institute of Architects, Monterey Bay Chapter, and the city of Carmel-by-the-Sea. It is funded by a $1,200 grant from the AT&T Youth Fund.



WINNING POSTER for the Great Sandcastle Contest will be replicated on posters and T-shirts for the judges. It was submitted by Stephanie Stock of Salinas.

Robles Emergency Drill Is Friday

With 20 agencies taking part, the Carmel Valley Volunteer Fire Department will conduct an emergency drill Friday—simulating what it would have to do if a wildlands fire exploded in the Robles Del Rio neighborhoods south of the Carmel River.

Capt. Jeff Frye said some 20 fire engines, perhaps a dozen other vehicles and some 80 people will participate in the drill from 1 to 3 p.m.

No residents actually will be evacuated from their neighborhoods. But the exercise will allow the department to test its new emergency plan for such an evacuation and its ability to set up a command post and an evacuation shelter.

The drill originally was scheduled for Aug. 28, but was postponed because agencies scheduled to take part were responding to serious fires in other parts of California.

Streets where the participating firemen will conduct the mock evacuation include Del Los Helechos, Lazy Oaks, Buena Vista Quien Sabe and El Hemmorro. The area is marked by narrow roads and bridges and sometimes steep terrain.

A command center will be set up for the drill at Carmel Valley and Esquiline Roads, and an evacuation center will be established at the Community Center.

After the drill, Frye said the department will assess its performance and make any changes needed in its emergency plan.

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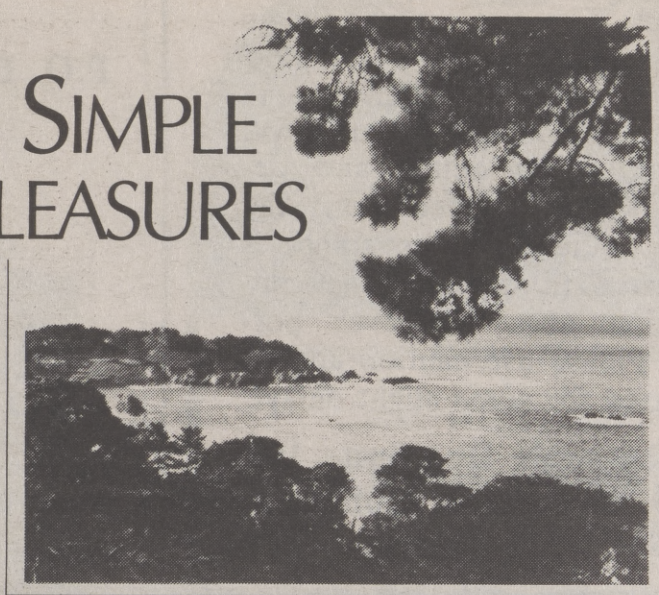

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Planning Vacancies Filled

Continued from page 5

only answer is parking garages. I support something at the north end of Sunset Center."

Billig said she had supported downtown parking structures in San Luis Obispo where "we found that most people refused to walk."

Asked by Councilwoman Livingston about Sausalito's recent ban on all new tourist-type operations such as T-shirt shops, Billig said, "I think it's a little extreme. You can have tourist-oriented and resident-oriented businesses but sometimes there's not a clear distinction.

"It distresses me deeply to see so many businesses going under although it's not necessarily because of what we're doing at City Hall...It would be my concern that we don't allow the business community to encroach into the residential sector. But anything you do regarding business downtown ought to be simple for people to understand and very straightforward."

Billig said she believed planning commissioners "always have to be very fair to the applicant but remember your charge to the General Plan and the policies set by the City Council. Governments exist for the good of everybody. It's a difficult juggling act."

Under the interview and selection process as set forth in an ordinance passed last year, the public is not allowed to participate although there were about two dozen people in attendance.

White told the *Sun* a few weeks ago he planned to call the ordinance back for some revisions but last week he said he had changed his mind. He said another member of the council was going to bring it back.

On Wednesday, the mayor defended the system, "The fact we have such experienced people kind of refutes some of the comment in the community that the process doesn't work."

All Saints' Rummage Sale Is Saturday

Saying it will have thousands of items up for grabs, All Saints' Day School will hold a fundraising rummage sale at the school on Carmel Valley Road Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. For information, call 624-9171.

DeDampierre River Project Cleared to Start

Engineering Manager Andy Bell of the water management district, reporting remaining landowners have agreed to allow access, said work will get underway Sept. 21 on an erosion control project in the deDampierre section of the Carmel River.

Bell told the *Sun* that four once-reluctant property owners had agreed to allow the $247,753 realignment of the river channel and the planting of willows to hold the bank to proceed.

At the same time, he said work began Monday on a similar but smaller project at Valley Hills. It will cost around $130,000.

Both program are conducted under the Carmel River Management Plan, with principal funding coming from user fees, a benefit assessment zone and an environmental mitigation fund established by the district.

The deDampierre project will cover about a mile of river extending from the east end of the Carmel Valley Little League fields to about 800 feet upstream of the Boronda Road bridge.

Bell said the land owners who initially balked at the project had various reasons for doing so, but he added they were convinced of the value of the project by various officials and neighbors.

"Now we can start moving earth instead of just paper," Bell said with a chuckle.

Cachagua Faire Set for Sept. 26

The third annual Cachagua Community Faire will be held Saturday, Sept. 26, at the Cachagua Community Center featuring music, crafts, games, an auction, dance and food.

Proceeds from the event will benefit the Cachagua Volunteer Fire Company, the Cachagua Community Center and the Cachagua Homeowners Association.

There is no admission charge. The Community Center is on Nason Road, off of Cachagua Road in Carmel Valley. Food will include a tri-tips and chicken barbecue and a pancake breakfast which will kick things off at 9 a.m.

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California-American Water Company

California-American Water Company and their contractor, Granite Construction Co., will be installing 5,775' of 30" water main as part of the ongoing water system improvement project. The project will begin construction on Sept. 15, 1992 and will take approximately 12 weeks to complete. Traffic will be subject to delays and detours will be posted along the entire route. Your assistance is requested in avoiding the construction area whenever possible. Please use caution and be prepared for some slight delays.

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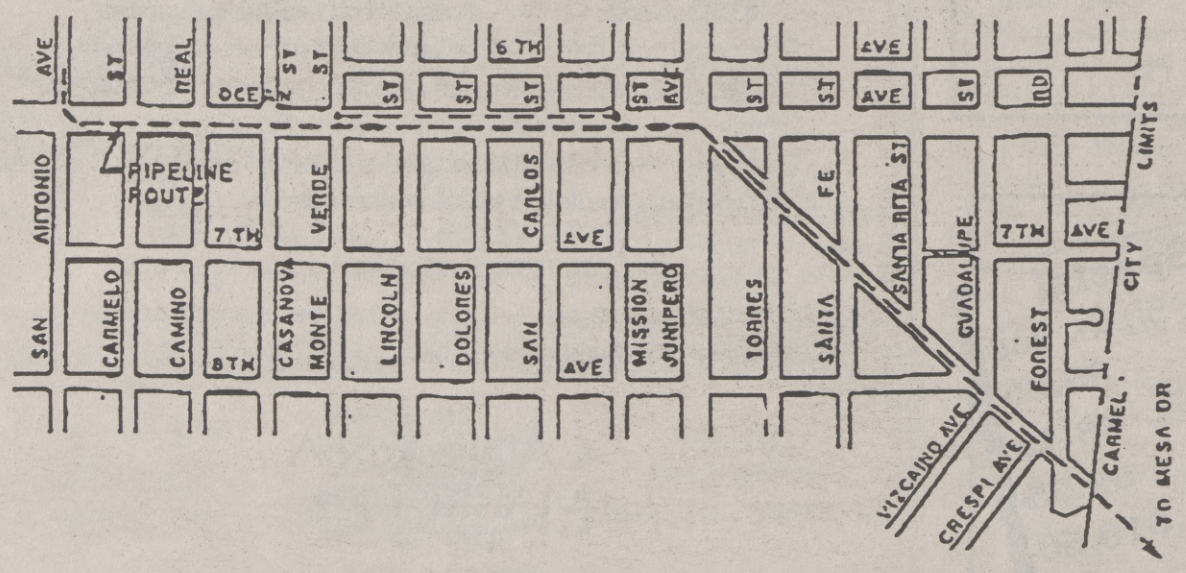

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OUT AND ABOUT

BY STAN HALL

For somebody who loves weather so much, I don't know exactly why I've chosen to live here where there's so little of it. One of the things I particularly miss on the Central Coast is the usual absence of thunderstorms.

There's nothing like weather generally to help keep us humble—to remind us just how small and insignificant we really are compared with the forces of nature. Thunderstorms exemplify both power and beauty—at least to my mind.

The thunderstorm that accompanied the little low pressure system that blew in from the south the weekend of Ranchers' Days was as welcome as an old friend. It didn't bring much moisture, but for a while, it was like a real summer. Where we live, the thunder shook the windows in the house, and the lightning created a brilliant nighttime light show which played off the ocean and the clouds hanging low over it.

Mark Twain had it right when he said: "Thunder is impressive, but it is the lightning that does the work."

By all rights, I probably shouldn't enjoy thunderstorms the way I do. Get too close and you see how downright deadly they can be.

When I was barely into my teens, a boy who lived on a nearby farm and was the only close neighbor and friend about my age was killed one summer when he was hit by lightning in Texas.

C. L. Calloway, who was a few years older than me, was driving a tractor for a neighbor one afternoon, discing under some wheat stubble. A thundercloud, later described by his dad as "not much bigger than my hat," came up in mid-afternoon. There were probably only two or three lightning strikes in it, but one of them hit C. L.'s old row-crop tractor.

He apparently was not killed instantly, because he did manage to lock the brakes on one side. That set the tractor turning in a tight circle, and then C. L. fell off.

His mother, noticing what she at first thought was a whirlwind from a couple of miles away, drove out and found his body. It had been cut to pieces by repeated passes of the disc.

If you were raised where thunderstorms are common, you quickly learn to respect the lightning that accompanied them. I always got off the tractor if even the smallest thundercloud came up.

It was when I began to learn to fly that I started to study meteorology and began to understand just how much energy thunderstorms can create.

On a hot summer afternoon on the Texas plains, they can easily reach 60,000 feet altitude. From a distance they look benign enough—white and puffy, with the characteristic anvil-shaped top and the dark sheets of rain slanting to the ground. The anvil always points in the direction they're moving, you know.

Inside, they are enormous, churning heat engines—even the small ones. They suck in hot air at the bottom and then shoot it up to the top through a column of air that acts like a chimney. As the air is rapidly pushed higher, it condenses, creating the hard rain that often accompanies such storms. If the raindrops are thrown repeatedly up to the top of the cloud where they freeze, they grow in size until their weight finally sends them crashing to the ground as hail.

If you fly, you must always steer clear of thunderstorms. No airplane is a match for one, no matter how big the plane.

Flying has been described as "hours and hours of boredom punctuated by moments of stark terror." A thunderstorm provided one of my most frightening plane rides one summer afternoon as I was trying to take off from Clovis, N. M., for a trip to Amarillo to get an irrigation engine part.

A squall line was moving through when I drove to the airport, but the individual cells—each one a thunderstorm in its own right—were scattered. Most of them were well east of the airport. Knowing that thunderstorms tend to move west to east, I decided to go ahead because I needed the part in a hurry.

Closest to me was a little cell about a mile southeast of the airport, near a grain elevator. I watched it as I taxied out and checked the engine RPMs before giving it the throttle.

I had just lifted off when I glanced back toward the grain elevator again. What a shock. The little storm cell was about to envelope my little plane.

At many airports, a standard procedure is to climb to 800 feet after takeoff and then make a left-hand turn. I didn't wait to get to 800 feet that day, but turned immediately and sped back for a landing approach.

The wind was tearing at the plane, tossing it around like a toy. The rain was so heavy, it was like flying into a gray wall. It seemed like an eternity before I could line up for an approach. In truth, I know it was less than a minute.

I could only see the runway intermittently through the slanting downpour, and the crosswind was so strong, I was flying sideways. Some how, some way, I got the airplane on the runway, followed the white line down the middle of it and taxied into a hanger. When I got out of the plane, I was as soaking wet as if I had been out in the storm. Slowly, I began understand what had happened.

The little cell by the grain elevator that I had been watching had simply exploded, expanding in size so quickly that it spread over the airport and my little plane. It never changed direction, but turned from a little cell to a giant one so violently that the area that it covered increased at least ten-fold in the blink of an eye.

"I don't know why you had all that trouble landing," said one of the guys in the hanger in mock seriousness. "We only clocked the wind at 86 miles an hour."

I don't know why I still like thunderstorms. But I do, and I miss seeing them in summertime.

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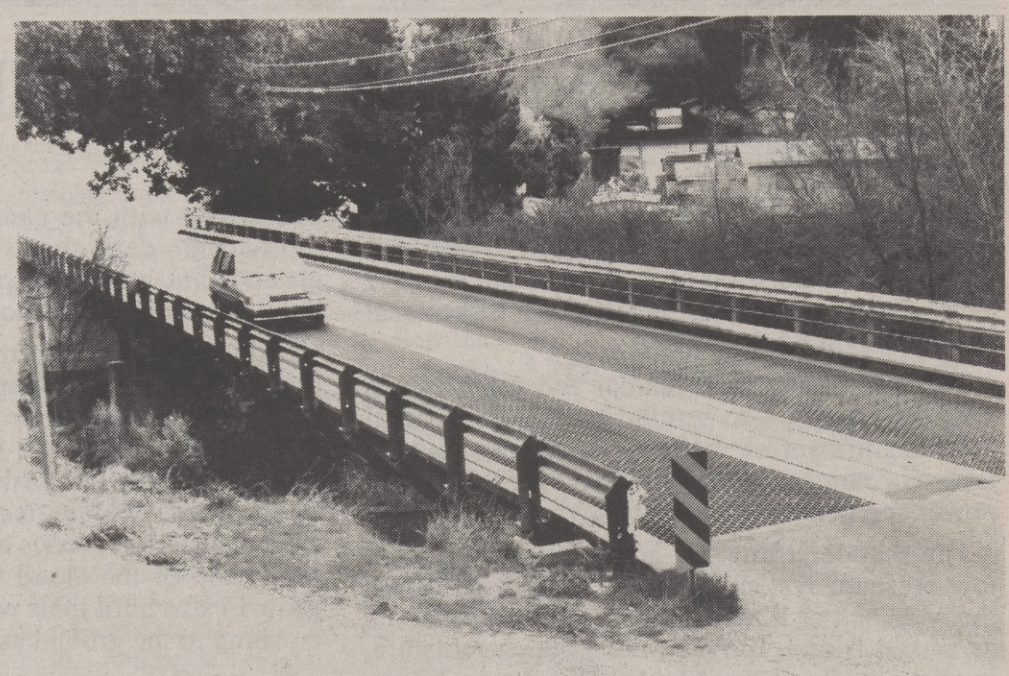

COMMUNITY SENTIMENT favors the replacement of Rosie's Bridge, shown above in a file photo, now that design changes have been negotiated.

Urge Prompt Bridge Replacement

Continued from front page

said they had been pressing the county for months to hold a public meeting on the new design but it displayed no urgency until after young Buich was hurt.

During the meeting, Strasser Kauffman asked the 70 or so residents in attendance how many of them approved of the new design. At least 50 hands went up. When she asked who still opposed replacing Rosie's, maybe as many as 10 hands went up.

Stamp noted afterwards that members of the History Society were among those expressing approval of the new design.

In addition to that display of support, Gabriela Buich, whose son was in the bike accident, turned in petitions containing some 1,000 names asking for the replacement of the 1946 bridge. It was named for the later Irwin "Rosie" Henry, who once operated the Cracker Barrel General Store on the south side of the river.

Buich was a leader among residents pushing Strasser Kauffman and Gromko about what interim steps might be taken to improve safety on Rosie's until it is replaced. Among the items suggested were speed bumps, so-called "rumble strips," stop signs at each end of the span, signs reducing the 25 mile per hour speed limit, a yellow blinking light, a "push to walk" control button for lights and increased sheriff's patrols to check for speeders.

Saying some of the items clearly were not practical, Gromko assured the crowd that the Public Works Department would look carefully at what could be done. "We will revisit some of the traffic safety measures we have dismissed," Gromko said. "It will take at least two weeks, but we will take a good look at them."

"Where the hell have you been for the past three years?" demanded Joe Roth, a resident.

Strasser Kauffman, saying she didn't want to clutter the landscape with signs, agreed that "maybe for a year, ugly is better than unsafe."

However, the question of when a new bridge could be built was left unresolved. A timetable presented by Gromko called for construction to begin in April of 1994—at the start of the normal dry season when the work must be done. During the work, a temporary detour will be built across the river on the east side of the bridge.

Strasser Kauffman pressed him to try to start a year earlier. "It would be a big help if you could save a year," she told him. "Then the interim steps would be less critical."

"Maybe we could get it cranked up a little sooner," Gromko said, but he added that the county had stopped acquiring small parcels needed for right-of-way because of the lawsuit. He also pointedly noted that while $300,000 in county money was required to start construction, the supervisors had allocated only $100,000 for the current fiscal year.

One of the things Gromko said still must be done is obtain Caltrans' approval of the revised bridge design. But both Stamp and Clough said they had copies of a letter from Caltrans dated Oct. 2, 1991, giving at least conceptual approval.

Asked if he thought construction could begin as early as April of 1993, Stamp replied, "If they get right on it."

Stamp also told the *Sun* that after accord on the design was reached at the meeting, he felt "We're in a position to settle the suit." He said he would seek a written agreement in which the county agreed to design changes and certain conditions.

For his part, however, Clough said he wasn't as eager to drop the legal action. He told the *Sun* he would also like to see the county agree to infrastructure changes in the area of the bridge before he would want to drop the suit.

They included the installation of a larger drainage pipe under Esquiline Road and the installation of stop signs on De Los Helechos and Del Rio Roads where the intersect with Esquiline.

He also objected to the county's plan to replace four large oak trees that would be removed by the project with 30, one-gallon oak seedlings. As he did during the meeting, he told the *Sun* he did not think they would survive if planted in the dry summer.

At the meeting, Clough, who operates his plumbing business out of Rosie's Cracker Barrel, also urged the county to consider construction of a small parking lot on the south bank of the river and the creation of a new staging yard which presently is at the south end of the bridge. A pathway tying into the wooden bridge walkway would go through the middle of the area now used to park county equipment and as a staging area for large equipment during construction in the Robles neighborhood.

Strasser Kauffman was short with Stamp, declining to let him use the microphone when he rose to speak. Even though he praised county staff members for being responsive during the negotiations, she cut him off before he finished.

Referring to the History Society lawsuit, she suggested it represented "money wasted," saying "the community would have had the discussions anyway. I'm hoping this will be the final session."

Clough explained why he was not anxious to drop his legal action by noting that Richard Rosenthal had sued the county after it originally proposed replacing Rosie's Bridge in 1986. He subsequently dropped his lawsuit, Clough said, when the country promised it would hold public meetings on the issue.

Clough said county supervisors later reneged on that pledge, despite the advice of their legal counsel, approving a design for a new bridge without taking the issue to residents. "I'm in no gosh-darn hurry," Clough said. "I don't want to drop it and have to start it up again some time later."

At Tuesday's supervisor's meeting, Strasser Kauffman presented Buich's petitions, and the board heard 10-year-old Cara Hussey describe how she broke both her arms in a bike accident on the bridge Sept. 28, 1991. She said she spent four days in the hospital and two months in casts.

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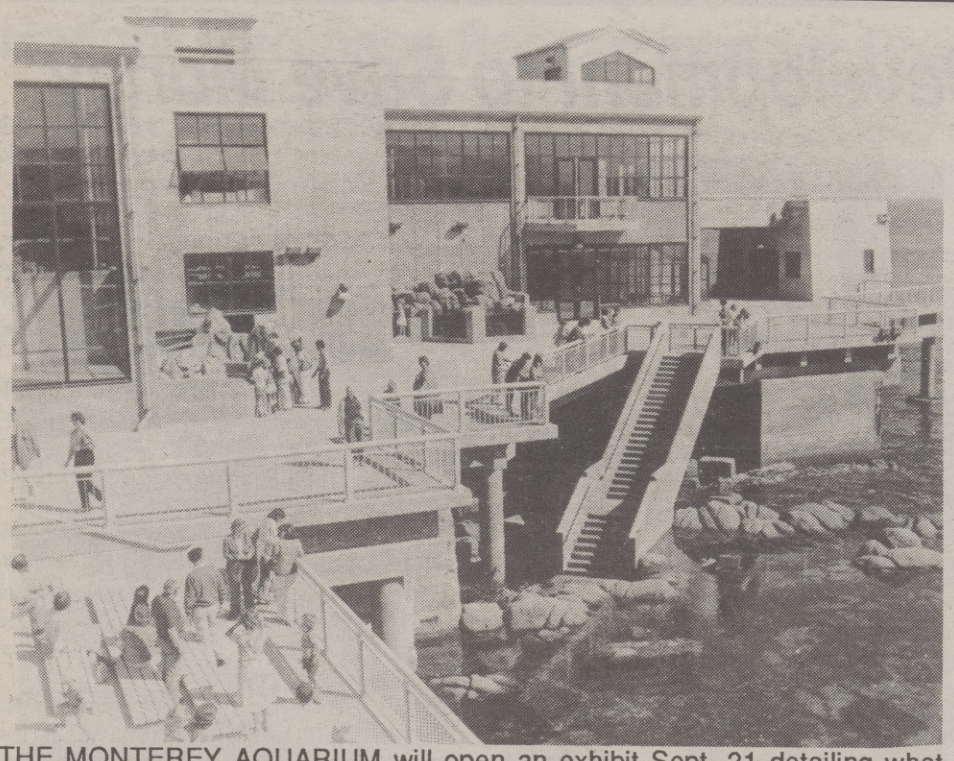

THE MONTEREY AQUARIUM will open an exhibit Sept. 21 detailing what sanctuary status will mean for Monterey Bay. The formal dedication of the sanctuary is scheduled for the previous day, and President Bush is widely expected to take part.

Aquarium Plans New Displays On Monterey Bay Sanctuary

The Monterey Bay Aquarium will open a new exhibit explaining what sanctuary status means for Monterey Bay on Sept. 21—the day after formal ceremonies dedicating 5,312 square-miles of ocean along the Central Coast as the nation's largest marine sanctuary.

To be called "Watching the Bay," the exhibit will focus on the marine resources in the sanctuary and outline how they will be protected under the new designation.

The aquarium staff also announced that expanded sanctuary exhibits will be included in its new exhibit wing which is scheduled to open in 1996. Exhibits there will focus on the open ocean and deep sea, the only habitats in the sanctuary area which are not already explored in aquarium displays.

President Bush is widely expected to attend the dedication ceremonies, and the state Coastal Commission announced that its eighth annual coastal cleanup would be held Sept. 19—the day before the dedication.

Last year, officials said 30,000 volunteers collected 325,000 pounds of trash from the state's shoreline, and organizers of the effort said they hoped to beat that record this year.

The Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary will be the nation's 11th such protected area and the largest. It stretches from Marin County north of San Francisco to near Hearst Castle in San Luis Obispo County.

The aquarium said that the sanctuary is home to 27 species of marine mammals, 94 species of seabirds, more than 345 fishes "and the most diverse and species-rich variety of invertebrate animals for an area its size anywhere on earth."

The sanctuary contains North America's largest underwater canyon "which bisects Monterey Bay and is deeper than the Grand Canyon," the aquarium said.

To be administered by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the sanctuary will continue to allow traditional activities such as commercial and sport fishing. But offshore oil and gas development will be prohibited. Sanctuary rules also ban ocean dumping except at existing sites, ban mining or other alteration of the seabed and require improved treatment of sewage before it is dumped into the bay.

The aquarium said that the sanctuary is a permanent or seasonal home to 80 percent of the marine mammal species found in the North Pacific and for 22 endangered and threatened species.

Admission to "Watching the Bay" will be free with regular aquarium admission of $9.75 for adults, $7.25 for seniors, students and military personnel and $4.50 for children ages 3-12.

Brooks Mother Dies on Holiday

Anita Johnson, mother of Councilwoman Barbara Brooks, died Sept. 3 while on a salmon fishing holiday on Vancouver Island. She was 82.

A resident and native of Berkeley, she died of congestive heart failure. Her husband, Harold, predeceased her. Brooks flew to be with her mother after she took ill. She said the family had vacationed in the area for the past 25 years.

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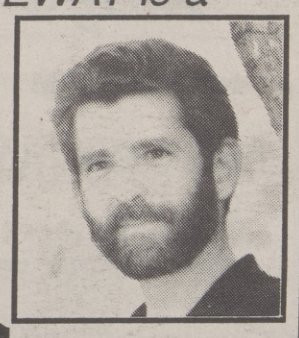

Tom Nassetta
Owner

City Mulls Stopping Rio Park Development to Save Money

Continued from front page

Sitting as the Public Improvement Authority, four members of the council and the late Richard Little acquired 6.5 acres owned by the Rosella S. Hodges Trust in January, 1990, At the time, the agency also took on debt of $850,000 plus interest for acquisition costs and improvements.

Little was appointed to the authority by the council to replace Elinor Laiolo who refused to be part of it, saying the city should not get into the real estate business. She also complained that any such purchase should not be approved without a vote of the people.

Her husband, former Mayor Barney Laiolo, still says, "They'd be smart to drop the whole thing. They ought to give the property back and take the loss."

The Public Improvement Authority was created Dec. 8, 1988, according to official record, to handle the purchase of the Handley property, now Vista Lobos, for $2,542,000 and a 10-year debt service of $2,042,000. It met again Jan. 6, 1989, to vote on Certificates of Participation in the amount of $200,000 for "demolition and temporary improvement costs" for the Handley property, according to the minutes.

The next meeting was Jan. 8, 1990, to handle the purchase of the Hodges land which had been on the market for about 20 years and was selling for $2 million, a price opponents of the project charged was too high.

The members consisted of then Mayor Jean Grace, present Mayor Ken White, who was a councilman along with Jim Wright and Bob Fischer.

An outgrowth of the city Parking Authority, the improvement agency was created in a joint powers agreement with the Bank of California of San Francisco which is the trustee for issuance of the Certificates of Participation. The city reportedly has about $460,000 of the original $850,000 debt in a restricted reserve account for development of Rio Park.

Instead of developing the park, it could use those funds to pay down the debt and save the interest costs during a time of fiscal hardship in a lackluster economy. Even at that, some observers think the city is still losing money on the interest exchange. It pays an average of 7.5 percent on the Certificates of Participation and is believed to be earning only about 5 or 6 percent today on its investment of the funds.

RIO PARK is being used to store material for the Carmel Area Waste Management District during a project to lay pipes through part of Carmel. The City Council will consider paying off some of the debt for the land in advance next Tuesday. *Sun photo by Isabelle Hall*

Current members of the authority are the five sitting members of the present City Council—White, Fischer, Barbara Brooks, Phil Coniglio and Barbara Livingston. The authority has met only once since Jan. 8, 1990, and that was a brief session July 7 at which it approved the minutes of the meetings of Feb. 7, 1989, and Jan. 8, 1990, some three and four years after the fact.

Even the $200,000 down payment for the Hodges property was financed by the city from the sale of the Certificates of Participation. The certificates were also to be used to pay the San Francisco law firm of Jones, Hall, Hill & White to handle the deal, a fee equal to 1 percent of the aggregate principal amount of the sale agreement and

Continued on page 17

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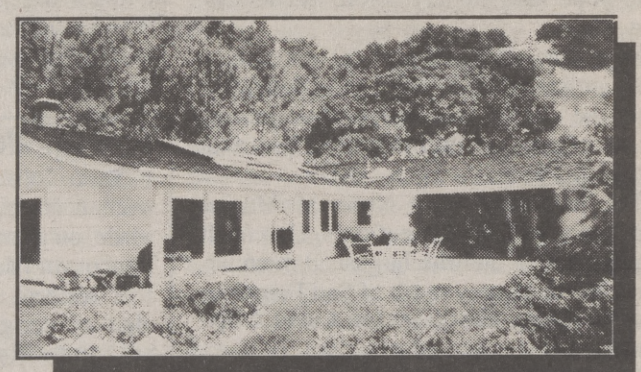

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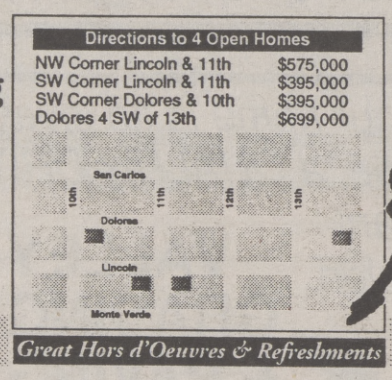

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Hodges Purchase Reexamined for Possible Savings

Continued from previous page

the certificates which totaled $260,000, according to the city's agreement retaining the firm.

At the time, the city thought it might be able to get enough revenue to handle the Hodges debt from the still-pending project to pipe reclaimed water from the Carmel Area Wastewater Treatment District through city streets to be used on Pebble Beach golf courses, according to persons involved in the discussions.

The certificates were given a Standard & Poor's "A" rating. Underwritten by Chilton & O'Connor, Inc., they contain a clause which states that the city agreed to include the cost of payments in its annual budgets and to make annual appropriations.

Curiously, the official statement of their issuance states that they "shall be used to finance the acquisition and improvement of a 10 acre site adjacent to the city..." All other references to the Hodges property say it has 6.25, or 6.5 acres. The title policy describes it as 6 acres, more or less.

At the time of the acquisition, Councilwoman Laiolo issued a written statement explaining her opposition. She noted that the purchase price was out of whack considering that just four years earlier Eastwood had purchased the adjacent 20-acre parcel occupied by Mission Ranch for about $5 million, and it contained an operating hotel with more than 25 units, a full restaurant and bar with a liquor license, several tennis courts and rental halls.

She also noted that part of the Hodges property was within the 100-year flood zone and limited in development potential due to severe regulation by the Coastal Commission and local land use plans and county flood control ordinances.

Laiolo also complained that the expenditure was being made at a time when the Loma Prieta earthquake had so dampened the economy that Carmel anticipated a revenue loss of up $500,000 in the final three months of 1989.

Finally she took issue with the city's description of the property as adjoining the city limits when she said maps clearly showed the Carmel Sanitary District owned a strip of land between the Hodges land and the city limits, land across which the city had an easement.

"This scenario contributes directly to inflation in real estate prices as did the purchase of the Picadilly Park property earlier the decade," she said. "A city should not be in the real estate business."

Also part of the public record was a letter from Howard Nieman, Jr., a former planning commissioner, complaining "at the behind the scenes process and complete lack of any public record to support the decisions being made."

Nieman also objected to the price. He cited the then-current county assessment of Mission Ranch (land only) at approximately $121,000 per acre, noting that the proposed purchase price of the Hodges property was 222 percent of estimated fair market value.

The appraisal of the property was done for the city by Rae L. Kirk and Associates which gave three opinions. It said if the land were used for future homesites, as it was zoned, it was worth $845,000. If it was used as open space, the firm valued it at $895,000 but if it was to be given special use as proposed by the city, the property was worth $1,508,000.

Only two comparative sales were cited in the report—the sale of a one-quarter acre lot in Monterey for parking by employees of the Monterey Bay Aquarium for $647,000, and the sale of three acres in Moss Landing for $725,000 for construction of aquarium research facilities.

PB Tax Accord Set

After summer-long appeals hearings, the County Assessor and Ben Hogan Properties compromised Wednesday on a $600 assessment for Pebble Beach property for the 18-months the Japanese company owned it.

A second Japanese company, Lone Cypress Co., purchased the property, including the golf course, the Lodge and other real estate, last March, and the county will again assess it based on the resale. Ben Hogan gave $829 million for the property in 1990 and resold it for a reported $350 million less a year and a half later.

The assessor originally valued the property at $866 million but in June reduced the amount to $723 million. Ben Hogan Properties argued it was worth $400 million.

The $200 million additional value reached through the compromise represents almost $3.5 million more in property taxes that will be paid by Ben Hogan, according to its attorney, Charles H. Page.

Ben Hogan Properties was willing to compromise because it owned the property for such a short period of time, according to Harry White, president.

County Concedes Defeat On Measure B Sales Tax

County supervisors have decided to drop a controversial half-cent sales tax, conceding that an appeal to the state Supreme Court to save Measure B would fail.

It was not exactly clear when the county sales tax rate would decline to 7.25 cents from 7.75 cents, but it probably will be by the end of the month, officials said.Neither was it clear how the county would repay the $33 million it has collected since Measure B went into effect April 1, 1990. Measure B was approved in November of 1989 by a five vote majority, prompting the Monterey Peninsula Taxpayers Association to challenge it on grounds it should have been approved by a two-thirds vote under Proposition 13.

The 6th District Court of Appeals in San Jose ruled unanimously Aug. 21 to uphold a Superior Court ruling supporting the taxpayers group's claim.

HOME SALES

The following property sales were recorded in the office of the Monterey County Recorder from August 24, through August 30, 1992. The information is taken from records available to the public. Sale prices are estimated on the basis of transfer tax paid to the county.

The Sun makes every effort to report these sales accurately, but anyone should consult a Realtor or other investment professional before taking action based on this information.

Carmel

MISSION STREET. Edward Bernstein to William L. and Elvira A. Johnston. $290,000.

Greater Carmel

9500 Center Street #46. Catherine R. McCloskey to Mario and Michelle Beretti. $177,000.

27604 SCHULTE ROAD. Robert D. Tetz to Ronald A. and D. A. Leona Pierce. $390,000.

Carmel Valley

211 CAMINO DE TRAVESIA. David M. and Christine H. Kearney to Susan T. Wheeler. $299,000.

Pebble Beach

1099 MARINERS WAY. Ralph W. Thompson III to Anthony Cosentino. $290,000.

3266 STEVENSON ROAD. John Wood II to Robert L. and Susan B. Creveling. $1,200,000.

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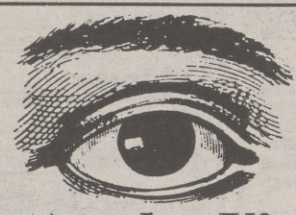
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MORE LETTERS

What's the Hurry, Anyway?

This is to state my concern over the disregard of the safety of pedestrians and bicyclists, etc., on Carmel Valley Road and Esquiline Road. This probably led to the accident of Gabriela Buich's boy, Chris. I think that the bridge improvements will only lead to further abuse, plus the destruction of four oaks, unless motorists here reduce their speed to at least the speed limit or less depending on safety conditions. It is often difficult to cross or turn, and there are too many dead animals. People have not been careful. This is not Laguna Seca Raceway, but a country road. Why are people in such a hurry anyway?

Sylvia Smith
Carmel Valley

More on Bow Bells

Among the many good features in the *Sun*, we appreciate your well-written "Out and About" articles. The reference to Bow Bells in the Sept. 3 issue prompts me to add a bit of information. The church of St. Mary-le-Bow was designed by Christopher Wren as part of the restoration of the old City of London after the great fire of 1666. The church was built on arches above an old Norman crypt, hence the suffix "Bow." To be born "within the sound of Bow Bells" in the old days was to be a true city-dweller. Westminster was at that time still an outlying upper-class area along the river, with its Abbey, palace, and Parliament. The present Houses of Parliament and Big Ben are 19th century innovations.

Robert Greenwood
Carmel Valley

Thanks to our readers for the enlightening letters on a childhood memory.—The Ed.

Council "Shoots Itself in Foot"

The Carmel City Council appears to have shot itself in the foot as a result of the new procedure it adopted last year concerning the appointment of planning commissioners. At that time, a squabble between then Mayor Grace and some of the council members (read CRA) over the procedure used to propose new commissioners resulted in the change to the procedure now being used. This requires potential planning commissioners to apply for the position and to be subjected to public interviews by all council members rather than being proposed by the mayor for the council to consider.

I agree with Mayor White that the procedure should be changed back to the way it was for a number of years. The recent scrap over the appointment of two new planning commissioners to replace Stephen Poohar and Jim Miller illustrates why. The mayor should recommend new commissioners, and the council should give its "advice and consent."

It also seems to me that the makeup of the Planning Commission should not be limited to a maximum of so many members from various professions nor be determined on the basis of whether they are businessmen or just non-business residents. For that matter, why should they be limited to Carmel residents rather than those who reside in the Carmel "sphere of influence"? There are talented, experienced people who have resided in the general Carmel area for many years and who possess the required qualities of familiarity with Carmel and its unique problems as well as good analytical abilities to make significant contributions to the Planning Commission and the city. Some of those who have recently been proposed are newcomers and do not have sufficient background and familiarity with the issues which are unique to Carmel.

Melvin B. Kline
Carmel

Invective Diminishes the Message

After having just returned to Carmel following a 10 week absence, it was so interesting to note that the situation regarding Planning Commission appointments is still as hot and contentious as ever.

Related to this, it was equally interesting to read the recent statements by the Carmel Residents Association, or more correctly, by a few individuals within it. While the messages could have some merit, the invective tone of the language tends to diminish the effectiveness of the messages. In addition, I have to point out an inaccuracy in the second statement.

A quote from this statement reads, "...the CRA conducts a Candidates' Forum for all the candidates. Afterwards, CRA's members in caucus decide who to endorse. The CRA's *Village Watch* newspaper then conveys to the voters pertinent, factual information on all the candidates."

While I am writing this letter, I am also looking at the issue of the Village Watch which came out just before last April's election. In it, Ken White and Barbara Livingston were endorsed, Barney Laiolo and Don Kremer were raked over the coals while no, repeat, no pertinent, factual information was given on Phil Coniglio or John Thompson, candidates for the City Council, only a mention that they had appeared with the others at the Candidates'. Forum. Does this square with the CRA statement?

Some people might call this bending the truth, others an outright falsehood. Be it whatever, as a member of the CRA, I feel that it is an embarrassment to the good and decent members of this organization. The few individuals responsible for the statement owe an apology to them and to the Carmel community.

They should live up to the ethical standards that they expect of others, including telling the truth.

Erling Lagerholm
Carmel

LEGAL NOTICES

-PUBLIC NOTICE-

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
Filed September 1, 1992
File No. F921451

The following individual(s) is (are) doing business as:
ELEGANT FOIL PRINTING
Monte Verde and Seventh
Carmel CA 93921
DARLENE JOAN WRIGHT
Monte Verde and 7th
Carmel CA 93921

This business is conducted by an individual.

Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on September 1, 1992.

(s) Darlene Wright

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on date indicated by file stamp above.

CERTIFICATION: I hereby certify that the foregoing is a correct copy of the original in my office.
ERNEST A. MAGGINI, County Clerk
Sept. 10, 17, 24, Oct. 1, 1992.

-PUBLIC NOTICE-

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
Filed August 14, 1992
File No. F921368

The following individual(s) is (are) doing business as:
VANGUARD PARAMEDICS
116 Hubbard Street
Santa Cruz Calif 95060
SANTA CRUZ AMBULANCE SERVICE
116 Hubbard Street
Santa Cruz Calif 95060
PAJARO VALLEY AMBULANCE
116 Hubbard Street
Santa Cruz Calif 95060

This business is conducted by a corporation.

Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on August 1, 1992.

(s) Robert Allen, Vice President
Vanguard Ambulance Service

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on date indicated by file stamp above.

CERTIFICATION: I hereby certify that the foregoing is a correct copy of the original in my office.
ERNEST A. MAGGINI, County Clerk
Sep. 3, 10, 17, 24, 1992.

-PUBLIC NOTICE-

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
Filed August 7, 1992
File No. F921335

The following individual(s) is (are) doing business as:
COUNTRY SUR
BIG SUR LOCAL TRADER
SUR
1st House Pfeiffer Point Ridge
Big Sur, CA 93920
Lawrence J. Share
Same as above

This business is conducted by an individual.

Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on August 1, 1992.

(s) Lawrence J. Share

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on date indicated by file stamp above.

CERTIFICATION: I hereby certify that the foregoing is a correct copy of the original in my office.
ERNEST A. MAGGINI, County Clerk
Sep. 3, 10, 17, 24, 1992.

PUBLIC NOTICE

**SUPERIOR COURT
OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF MONTEREY
Case No. M24643
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE
CCP1277
FOR CHANGE OF NAME
Filed August 21, 1992
Date: October 9, 1992
Time: 9:30 am
Dept: Law & Motion**

IN THE MATTER of the Application of Christi Venter, Petitioner, and KIRI AUDREY TAYLOR (Venter) and PHILLIP TREVOR TAYLOR (Venter), minors/applicants, BY: CHRISTI VENTER, their Natural Mother, for Change of Name
WHEREAS CHRISTI VENTER, Petitioner, and natural mother of applicants KIRI AUDREY TAYLOR (Venter) and PHILLIP TREVOR TAYLOR (Venter), minors, has filed a petition with the Clerk of this court for a decree changing Petitioner's and Applicant's names from: CHRISTI VENTER to CHRISTIANNA ALEXANDRE, KIRI AUDREY TAYLOR (Venter) to KIRI AUDREY ALEXANDRE, and PHILLIP TREVOR TAYLOR (Venter) to PHILLIP TREVOR ALEXANDRE.
IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above matter appear in the Law and Motion Department of this court, located at 1200 Aguajito Road, Monterey, California 93940, on October 9, 1992 at 9:30 A.M., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, and show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted.
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a copy of this order to show cause be published in the *Carmel Valley Sun*, a newspaper of general circulation printed in Monterey County, California, once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition.

DATED: August 21, 1992
JOHN M. PHILLIPS
Judge of the Superior Court

Published: Sept. 3, 10, 17, 24, 1992.

-PUBLIC NOTICE-

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
Filed September 8, 1992
File No. F921503

The following individual(s) is (are) doing business as:
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BARBARA JONES
Ocean & Casanova
Carmel CA 93921

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Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on August 17, 1992.

(s) Barbara Jones

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on date indicated by file stamp above.

CERTIFICATION: I hereby certify that the foregoing is a correct copy of the original in my office.
ERNEST A. MAGGINI, County Clerk
Sept. 10, 17, 24, Oct. 1, 1992.

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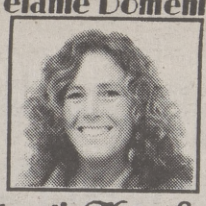
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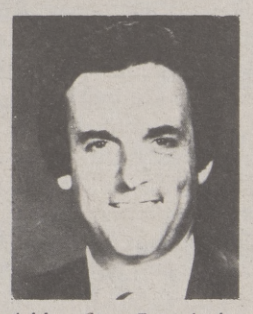
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Toni Jepson Boosts Carmel Businesses—the City, Too

By Isabelle Hall

Go to virtually any public meeting at Carmel City Hall and you will find an enthusiastic, no-nonsense woman listening hard, waiting for the right time to get up and speak her piece for the Carmel business community. And, she seldom takes no for an answer.

When Mayor Ken White wanted to recreate last fall's highly successful 75th birthday party for Carmel, his eye fell on one of the busiest people around to make it happen—Toni Jepson. Only this year there would be no money from the city to pay for it so she'd have to raise the funds.

When the city said it didn't have the money to install electrical conduit the length of Ocean Avenue, its main shopping thoroughfare, Toni Jepson didn't hear the answer. She simply said her piece at every City Council session until its members approved the $14,500 project. The hooker was Jepson would have to find the money.

"I guess I'll just have to start beating the pavement," she told them, undaunted at the idea of having to fund a sizeable city public works endeavor.

"She'll get it," White said, shaking his head in wonder. "She said she'd ask the service organizations for money for the birthday party and the next day they gave it to her."

A TYPICAL POSE FOR TONI JEPSON, executive director of the Carmel Business Association, is on the telephone at her busy office in the Eastwood Building on San Carlos. *Sun photo by Isabelle Hall*

As executive director of the Carmel Business Association (CBA), Jepson either helps or fights City Hall virtually every day of the week in behalf of her 500 members. The job entails about 15 hours a week of meetings. "In August alone, I attended 20 meetings," she said.

"I got $2,500 from Camel Plaza yesterday," she grinned, in answer to a question about her progress collecting the money for the electrical work. "I don't think it will be a problem.

"We feel strongly that to invite people to come to Carmel and just have one Christmas tree and no other city decorations to get in the spirit of Christmas leaves a bad feeling and they don't come back," she said. The conduit is to be laid while Ocean Avenue is torn up as Cal-Am Water Co. and the Carmel Waste Management District lay new pipelines starting Sept. 15. The additional wiring will make it easier to put up Christmas decorations.

Whenever a business takes an application to the Planning Commission or an appeal to the Council, the vivacious brunette is there, speaking up for its rights. A lot of people say they are intimidated by such appearances in the rather formal atmosphere of the City Council chambers. Jepson takes hold of the lectern like it was a pulpit and preaches straight at the council or the commission.

The CBA has gotten short shrift through the years, according to its president, Gary Luce, who reminded the city publicly in a recent statement that it shouldn't bite the hand that feeds it—the business community provides 72 percent of Carmel's annual revenues but through the years has gotten little official support.

Jepson often gets turned down as she sallies forth to speak in behalf of this business or that restaurant or inn, but it never seems to break her spirit. The next day she'll be right back talking common sense to the elected officials who sometimes seem like they are in a dream world to those trying to make a living in a tough economic climate.

It often takes Jepson, who speaks briefly and to the point without mincing words, to bring an issue into perspective.

Last week, the council droned through a hearing on whether or not the city should accept the gift of two benches to be placed outside restaurants on Ocean Avenue, whether it should have a policy for benches, whether they should be made of teak or wrought iron or fabricated material, who should maintain them and so forth.

"I can't believe what I'm hearing," Jepson told them. First, of all she asked how they could claim they wanted Carmel to be like a European village one day and then turn down gifts such as European-like benches on the other. Beyond that, she told them flatly all the questions they were pondering should properly be studied by the Planning Commission. Her remarks hit like a bucket of icy water.

Jepson never had any training in public speaking. "I was one of eight kids. We all had to talk a lot. My brothers and sisters all were daily pupils at boarding schools and sometimes we'd bring home so many kids there'd be 20 teenagers there on the weekend," she explained.

"I love it," she said of her job. "Every moment you're doing something different. I'm a real project person. I like to see the end and here everything is a project that must be completed. I don't like to do the same thing day in, day out, every day."

In an average month, she might chair a meeting to plan the city's 76th birthday party Oct. 26, sit through an entire City Council session on Tuesday, a full Planning Commission hearing on Wednesday, conduct the monthly meeting of the CBA, sit in on three of its subcommittees, meet with the board of directors and volunteer her services to help raise money at Carmel High School where her son, Pete, 17, is a junior.

Jepson also takes in meetings of the Ad Hoc Parking Committee on the proposed Trip Reduction Ordinance (TRO) which will have a major impact on city business and on recycling efforts. She serves on the board of directors of the Monterey County Hospitality Association and the Monterey Wine Festival.

How does she do it all? "Don't forget to mention my assistant, Debbie Alexander," she said. "She's wonderful. I couldn't get along without her." The CBA also has seven women who volunteer their time to answer the constantly ringing telephone and help guide tourists to inns, restaurants and the shops.

In addition to helping out the city during its budget crunch, Jepson has planned the annual CBA fundraiser which will be held Sept. 16 at Highlands Inn, certain to be a glittering evening with an auction of events ranging from a trip to London to dinner at the home of the Carmel mayor, prepared by his wife, Jean.

Born in San Francisco, Jepson graduated from the Convent of Sacred Heart and went on to teach kindergarten for seven years. "I graduated to second grade but the kids were too smart for me, I had to get out."

She was hired by the prestigious Stamford Court Hotel when it opened in San Francisco because, she said in a typical, mildly self-deprecating quip, "They wanted someone without any experience.

"It was so exciting and so much fun. I took to the hotel business like a duck to water." She didn't remember until a recent high school reunion that her peers had prophesied she would be running a hotel.

In 1973, Toni Doyle was assistant executive manager of the City of Commerce Hyatt in Los Angeles where she met Cal Jepson, an Ohioan who was attracted to the hotel business after the Vietnam War when he was involved for the U.S. Army with a hotel in Bangkok. He went back to his former employer, IBM, and took some hotel courses before joining Hyatt Corp.

The couple were married in 1974 and their son was born in 1975 in San Jose where Cal Jepson had been transferred. Toni started a new career in real estate when he was transferred to Sunnyvale where she served on the local board of Realtors, a forerunner of her busy organizational life in Carmel.

"I made a lot of really good friends in real estate," she said. "I liked the entrepreneurial spirit of the people. They worked hard and were not into stabbing people in the back like sometimes happens in big corporations."

In 1982, the Jepsons moved to Carmel where both took jobs at Highlands Inn. As director of sales and marketing, Toni used her maiden name. She is proud to be a fifth generation San Franciscan. Her parents live at the Park Hyatt in Monterey.

No stranger to the area, Jepson said she spent her childhood summers in Carmel Valley at her Hollow Hills Ranch, now the site of Carmel Valley Manor, which was owned by Noel Sullivan, her great-uncle. She said some of the black iron fence around the manor came from the Phelan Building on Market Street in San Francisco. Sen. James Phelan, for whom the building was named, was Noel Sullivan's uncle.

"My Aunt Brenda Doyle is married to Robinson Jeffers' son, Garth," she said, "And that's quite a story. They knew each other as teenagers but married other people and seven years ago after both their spouses had died, they met again and were married, 40 years later."

When the Landmark Corp. decided to build a hotel at its Carmel Valley Ranch golf property, Cal Jepson was hired as general manager in 1986. "I left Highlands and started 'Resort To Me,' a reservation service," his wife said, until December, 1990, when she was hired to replace Lee Chamberlain who retired as CBA executive director.

Jepson had been active with the group since moving to the Carmel area.

"I am always amazed when I go somewhere and I don't know someone," she laughed, as people came up to say hello to her during a luncheon interview at La Playa's new Terrace Restaurant, one of the many local projects she endorsed before the council.

Asked how old she is, Jepson stifled a giggle at the fact that "Clint crashed my 50th birthday party last May 25. All my brothers and sisters were there, and they were thrilled." So were the other 80 guests whom her husband had invited to the party at their Carmel Views home when Eastwood, a staunch supporter of the CBA, dropped in. The CBA is housed on the second floor of the Eastwood Building on San Carlos.

Native Plant Expert to Speak

Noted horticuluralist Wayne Roderick, retired director of the Tilden Park Botanical Garden in Berkeley, will present a program on gardening with native plants at a meeting of the Monterey Bay Chapter of the California Native Plant Society at 8 p.m. Sept. 15 at the Vista Lobos Park Community Room, 3rd & Junipero, Carmel.

Roderick is internationally known for his work with native bulbs, rock garden plants, and hybridizing asters, primroses, and other speaes. He will bring a variety of his favorites natives to display and discuss. The meeting is open to the public at no charge. For information call 624-8497 or 659-2528.

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